May - July 2005



www.wcasohio.org

Weeders in the Wild

Rocky River Nature Center, Saturday, April 30, 10-11:30 am. Meet at Rocky River Nature Center, 24000 Valley Pkwy, North Olmsted, OH

Who is doing something about invasive plants? Join the crowd and see how many groups participate in this pull. When you walk the paths notice how the Garlic Mustard is being pushed back farther and farther from the trails

Sandy Ridge Reservation, Saturday, May 28, 10:00 am. Meet at Lorain Metroparks 6195 Otten Road, North Ridgeville, OH

You may want waterproof rubber kneeboots or old tennis shoes for this one. We will jump into the muck and look for Reed Canarygrass to rip out. Last year's work session we heard a Marsh Wren and a Blackpoll Warbler while we worked, maybe this year we'll see the Bald Eagle that nests near by. We'll learn a little bit about grass identification. The similar, native-Cut Grass grows here, it's name hints at an important difference. There will be a less strenuous option, cutting and bagging from the boardwalk. We'll meet in front of the nature center.

Sandy Ridge Reservation, Saturday June 18, 10:00 am. Meet at Lorain Metroparks 6195 Otten Road, North Ridgeville, OH

One more chance to see a Bald Eagle and get muddy pulling the Canarygrass out of the swamp.

Chapter election set for May meeting

By Tom Romito, President, WCAS

May 3 is the date for the election of the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society's officers and directors for the upcoming year. According to Article VI, Section 1 of the chapter bylaws, the election takes place at the May meeting and those elected take office at the September meeting.

Here is a list of the offices in which members have offered to serve:

Nancy Howell – Treasurer Recording Secretary – Claudia Anders Newsletter Editor – Kit Birch Membership Chair – Alice Mitchell Conservation Chair – Terri Martincic Program Chair – Nancy Howell Webmaster – Mary Anne Romito Field Trip Chair – Mary Anne Romito and Terri Martincic Education Chair – Paula Lozano and Nancy Howell Legislative Advocate – Kit Birch Directors at Large – Liz Clingman and Tom Romito

Nobody has offered to serve as President or Vice President. Since both offices will be vacant, the board has decided to rotate the chairing of meetings from month to month among the board members. Other organizations successfully do this and WCAS should be able to do this as well, and still provide the same outstanding public service as in the past.

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Welcome, New Members!

Jim McCormac

May Program • Tuesday, May 3 at 7:30 p.m at RRNC.

Spring is when people think of birds and wildflowers, but butterflies are active too.

Butterfly gardener Carol Sutek will share her knowledge of native butterflies as well as the plants for raising them. Carol's program, "Butterfly Gardening" takes in more than just what adult butterflies feed upon, since it is the larvae



(caterpillars) that do most of the feeding ... and some are very picky eaters! Come and learn how your yard or the balcony of an apartment can become a haven for butterflies.

Spring Bird Walks on Sundays in April and May

Spring Bird Walks

See the spring migrants during the Audubon spring bird walks. The walks will be held each **Sunday from April 10 to May 15, 2005. Meet at 7:30 a.m.** at the following locations:

Big Creek Reservation - Lake Isaac off of Big Creek Parkway in Middleburg Heights.

Brecksville Reservation - Station Rd. Bridge Trailhead off of Riverview Rd. south of Rt. 82 in Brecksville.

Hinckley Reservation - Bridge at south end of Hinckley Lake off of State Rd. in Hinckley.

Huntington Reservation - Huntington Beach off of Lake Rd. in Bay Village.

Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation - Canal Way Center in Cuyahoga Heights. Take I-77 to

Grant Ave. to E. 49th St. entrance.

Rocky River Reservation - Rocky River Nature Center on Valley Parkway north of Cedar Point Rd. in North Olmsted.

Shaker Lakes - Shaker Lakes Nature Center off of Shaker Blvd. in Shaker Hgts.

For more locations go to:www.wcasohio.org.

Thanks, Volunteers!

Thanks go out to Jan Holkenborg, Nancy Howell and Dave LeGallee for the set up and procedures for the Bird Identification portion of Science Olympiad held at Cleveland State University on Saturday, March 5. Fourth through sixth grade students from approximately 24 schools participated and did very well. Students had to know bird identification of northeast Ohio birds by sight, sound and silhouette. Aspects of bird ecology and adaptations were covered as well as how to interpret a bird checklist.

Thanks again for your talents and time.

School Days at Edgewater Park

WCAS will once again participate in School Days At Edgewater State Park for school children

This event will be held **Wednesday**, **May 25 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Edgewater Park**. Our booth will be the Fun Fair Section and will feature simple bird identification and adaptations for youngsters going by.

If you wish to help out, please contact Nancy Howell at 216-321-4600 x 3225 or nhowell@cmnh.org.

June Program •Two Great Picnics Tuesdays, June 7 & June 28

Join us at our original location for our Summer Picnic, Bird walk and Plant exchange on **Tuesday**, **June 7 at 6:00 PM.** For old times sake we have chosen to return to **South Mastick Picnic Area**. Bring your own dinner. WCAS will provide the charcoal fire for cooking. We will follow the dinner with a bird walk.

Bring along your extra plants or orphan plants from your spring planting. Ex-

change them for other plantings. There is always a good variety and assortment. You'll never know what you'll find here.

Our second picnic will meet at Bath Nature Reserve on Tuesday, June 28 at 5:30 PM on Ira Rd west of Rt 21. See map on page 4.

WCAS is going to hold a joint picnic with a neighboring chapter,

Greater Akron Audubon Society (GAAS) We will meet for a bird walk, then return to the pavilion for a picnic. The Potluck picnic dinner will begin about 6:30 or 7:00 PM followed by a talk about University of Akron biology research by one or more UA faculty and/or students.

A plant exchange will also be held.

June Field Trip • Sunday, June 5, 2005 • 12:00 Noon

Wolf Creek Environmental Center 6100 Ridge Road Sharon Center, OH 44274

Meet and welcome members of the Columbus Audubon Society on our joint field trip to the Wolf Creek Environmental Education Center and Nature Preserve in Medina County on Sunday, June 5, 2005 at 12 (noon). This trip will give us an opportunity to find out more about how other chapters work and to most follow Auduboners.

and to meet fellow Auduboners. Don't forget we'll also do some birding as we hike the trails and visit the Environmental. Ed. Center. The Nature Preserve has a wide variety of habitats

which should provide a wide variety of birds and perhaps some other wildlife!

After our hike we'll go out for a late lunch, early dinner somewhere in the area. So plan on making an afternoon of a beautiful June day. Friends and family are always welcome.

Directions: Take I-71 south to Route 18. Head East on Route 18 to Route94 (Ridge Rd.). Take Rt. 94 south. Pass Ridgewood Rd., watch for Wolf Creek Environmental Education Center sign on the right about 1/4 to 1/2



mile on Rt. 94.

For a larger map, see our website: www.wcasohio.org.

Website updates

Check it out! www.wcasohio.org

What's New:

- Dike 14 Bird Walk
- New programs.
- New field trips
- Audubon Adventures section
- Membership section
- · Newsletters in full-color

Contact Us

WCAS Chapter Newsletter

Published 4 times per year in January, April, July, and October by the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society, 4310 Bush Ave, Cleveland, OH 44109,

www.wcasohio.org is the official Chapter Web Site.

WCAS Board Meetings held at 6:30 pm prior to each program at Rocky River Nature Center. General public and WCAS members welcome.

President

Tom Romito, 216-741-2352

Recording Secretary

Kit Birch, 440-238-0153

Treasurer

Mary Anne Romito, 216-741-2352

Board of Directors

Terri Martincic, 440-243-4536 Nancy Howell, 440-891-1710 Mary Jo Lakner-Segal, 216-281-5113

Paula Lozano, 216-226-7511



WESTERN CUYAHOGA AUDUBON SOCIETY

4310 Bush Ave. Cleveland, OH 44109

Phone: 216-741-2352 Fax: 216-741-1879 Email: info@wcasohio.org

WCAS is Fun and Educational.

Visit our website www.wcasohio.org

Larger maps on website

July Field Trip •Saturday, July 9, 2005 • 8:00 a.m.

Directions: The Bath Nature Preserve has an entrance on Hickory Farm Lane at 4160 Ira Road.

From I 77 South take exit 143 (SR 176/Wheatley Road). Turn right onto SR 176 (Wheatley Road). Turn South onto Brecksville Road (Cleveland Massillon Road) and turn right on to Ira Road. The entrance to the parking lot is on the left.



Chapter Supporter Application

Why wait! Join WCAS as a chapter supporter.

Rates: Basic rate \$20 for 1 or 2 people

\$40 for 3 or more

Enhanced \$35 for 1 or 2 people

\$45 for 3 or more

Basic rate gives you our newsletter and a nametag.

Enhanced gives you our newsletter, nametag and our PASSPORT.

NAME	
ADDRESS	
CITY/STATE/ZIP	
TELEPHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	Chapter Membership Amount \$

Make your check payable to WCAS. Mail to Mary Anne Romito, treasurer, 4310 Bush Ave., Cleveland, OH 44109